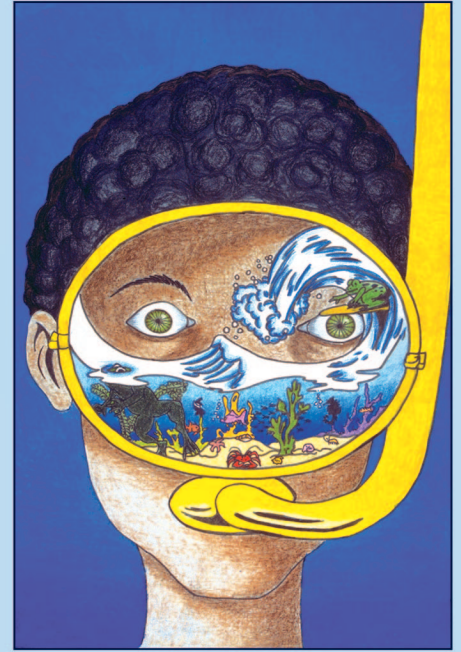




What's Up With our Nation's Waters?





A Message from the Administrator

Christine Todd Whitman



I believe water is the biggest environmental issue we face in the 21st Century in terms of both quality and quantity. In the 30 years since its passage, the Clean Water Act has dramatically increased the number of waterways that are once again safe for fishing and swimming. Despite this great progress in reducing water pollution, many of the nation's waters still do not meet water quality goals. I challenge you to join President Bush and me to finish the business of restoring and protecting our nation's waters for present and future generations.



Cover: Artwork from *The River of Words* 2000 art contest

"River Otter in the Wilderness," Molly J., Age 10, California, Art Finalist (top left)

"Quick as My Thought," Rachel R., Age 8, California, Art Winner Category II (Grades 3-6) (top center)

"Submerge in the Wonder," Courtney M., Age 17, Georgia, Art Finalist (top right)

"Heal the World," Eon H., Age 15, Georgia, Art Winner Category IV (Grades 10-12) (bottom)